



Mental Health Conversations: Debt and Benefits

8th May, 10.00-16.00,
Conference Hall, City Hall, Bristol BS1 5TR

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

10.00 **Registration and networking**

10.30 **Welcome**

Chair, Councillor Celia Phipps, Bristol City Council

Overview

What do we know about the links between mental health and debt and benefits issues, what are the challenges and what are the most effective and cost-effective actions to take

10.40 Councillor Asher Craig, Deputy Mayor, Bristol City Council – Thrive Bristol

10.45 Dr. Maria Barnes, University of Bristol – Findings HOPE study

11.05 Penny Walster, Shelter (on behalf of ACFA) – Advice agency perspective

11.15 Rev. Brendan Bassett, Victoria Park Baptist Church – Foodbank perspective

11.25 Case study - Lived experience perspective

11.35 Q&A

11.45 Break

12.00 **Workshop 1**

Identifying the issues – what do you want to say?

12.50 Lunch

13.30 **Universal Credit Briefing: The facts**

Mike Warner, Department for Work and Pension

13.45 Feedback from workshop 1

13.55 **Workshop 2**

Identifying solutions – what role can you play in overcoming these issues?

14.45 Feedback from workshop 2

14.55 Q&A

15.10 **Next steps and closing remarks**

Tom Renhard, Bristol Independent Mental Health Network

Monira Chowdhury, Community Access Support Service

Catherine Wevill, BNSSG Clinical Commissioning Group

15.30 **Networking**

16.00 Close

There will be free resources, help and advice available on the day, provided by local organisations.